

## NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,  
PROPRIETOR.

Volume XXXVII.....No. 318

## AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st. and Eighth  
st.—ROSE CROFT.UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Broadway, between Thirteenth  
and Fourteenth streets.—AGNES.OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway, between Houston  
and Bleeker sts.—ALADDIN THE SECOND. Matinee at 2.WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner Thirtieth st.—  
BUFFALO BILL. Afternoon and Evening.FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street.—  
BEANS STRATEGEM.WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and Thirtieth  
street.—OUR AMERICAN COUSIN.THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway.—ALADDIN NO.  
ONE. Matinee at 2.BOOTH'S THEATRE, Twenty-third street, corner Sixth  
avenue.—KERRY—JESSIE BROWN.ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth street.—ITALIAN  
OPERA.—LA TRAVIATA.GERMANIA THEATRE, Fourteenth street, near Third  
st.—IMPASSANT BILKIN.BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—COUNTERPART; OR,  
TRUE AND FAITH.MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.—  
SARATOGA.BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st. corner  
Sixth st.—NEURO MINSTRELS' ECCENTRICITY, &c.719 BROADWAY, EMERSON'S MINSTRELS.—GRAND  
EUROPEAN ECCENTRICITY.WHITE'S AMUSEMENT, 585 Broadway.—NEURO MIN-  
STRELS, &c. Matinee at 2.TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—  
GRAND IMPASSANT ENTERTAINMENT, &c.SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, St. James Theatre,  
corner of 29th and Broadway.—EUROPEAN MINSTRELS.STEINWAY HALL, Fourteenth st.—CONCERT OF CHAM-  
BER MUSIC.BAILEY'S GREAT CIRCUS AND MENAGERIE, foot  
of Houston street, East River.AMERICAN INSTITUTE FAIR, Third st., between 63d  
and 64th streets.NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.—  
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SCIENCE AND ART.

## President Grant and His Future Policy—The Cuban Question and Slavery.

Although no person would attribute to President Grant the character of a politician, in the general acceptance of the term, he has nevertheless certain qualities which supply the place of political experience and sagacity, and enable him to meet political strategists without disadvantage on their own battlefield. The country had evidence of this during the last months of the rebellion, when the Union leader firmly and successfully resisted that unwise interference of the Washington politicians with the army in the field which had served to prolong the war and had so frequently brought disaster upon our arms. It was shown in his effective rebuke of the same intermeddlers when they proposed to ignore the parole extended to General Lee and his officers, and to arraign them as criminals in a court of justice; in his famous report on the acceptance of the situation by the Southern whites; in his protest against the immediate enfranchisement of four millions of ignorant freedmen in the South, and in his general recommendations to Congress in the early part of his civil career. We have confidence, therefore, that President Grant will fully comprehend the lesson of his recent magnificent victory at the polls, and will appreciate the suggestions offered by the independent press in regard to the future policy of his administration. His natural shrewdness will enable him to detect at once the object of those politicians who are already combating the idea that the election was won on the personal merits of the leader of the Union armies, and claiming the result as due to republicanism alone. They desire to retain in power for another four years the "rings" which for the past two or three years have revolved about the Presidential office, borrowing from it their light and life. But the very arguments which their stipendiary organs advance in support of this theory effectually destroy it. The republican nominees for local and State officers, they say, run nearly or quite up to the Presidential ticket, and from this they reason that republicanism alone elected General Grant. In every State in the Union, we believe, the Presidential ticket will be found ahead of the State ticket, and hence the conclusion is irresistible that General Grant dragged the local candidates after him to victory through the strength of his own name. Indeed, in the case of the defeat of Judge Settle, in North Carolina, the President of the Republican Convention, we have a proof that without Grant republicanism was powerless. Had the North Carolina State election been held in November Judge Settle would have been carried to success in the wake of the Presidential ticket. The State votes in Indiana, Pennsylvania and other States which held their local elections before November, as compared with their Presidential votes, are positive evidence that the personal merits and popularity of the Nation's Soldier were the key to the recent victory, and that the President saved republicanism, instead of republicanism saving the President. General Grant is quite politician enough to grasp these points, and when an English-edited organ of the "Ring," which knows little about America or Americans, impudently tells the conqueror of the rebellion that he would be "unmercifully dropped by the people" if he should "turn traitor to his party" as were "Sumner, Schurz, Trumbull or Greeley," General Grant will understand that it is only a threat uttered to remind him that he is expected to renew the lease of power of those who claim to represent the republican party and who have surrounded his administration during his present term of office.

The Herald has already insisted upon General Grant's independence of these scheming politicians and of the Hessians who draw rations from them, and has called upon him to shape the future policy of his administration in accordance with the evident sentiments of the people, whose President he can now emphatically claim to be. When the republican party was demoralized and shattered he was taken up on the shoulders of his countrymen and carried to triumph over all parties and combinations. The very organ which now impudently tells him that he had no strength apart from republicanism was a few weeks ago pleading with "honest democrats," the "commercial interests," the "independent masses," the "brave soldiers," the "intelligent Germans," and every conceivable power in the canvass, to give their votes to the republican candidates "independent of politics." The appeal was answered, and General Grant will enter upon his new term of office as a President chosen on his own merits alone; as a President in whom the great body of the American people have personally reposed confidence. He will have before him an opportunity such as no former Chief Magistrate ever enjoyed to render his name as famous in peace as it already is in war. Striking off the trammels of party, he can pursue a popular policy, that will place our government in a higher position than it has ever before occupied, both at home and among the nations of the world. The settlement of the Southern question on a broad, generous basis of constitutional freedom for every State in the Union, leaving the negro problem, like every other, to be solved by local laws and local interests, will raise him in the South almost to the level of the Father of his Country. He will at least take the position of the guardian and preserver of the liberties of an important section of the Union. The settlement of the Cuban question on a basis of humanity and freedom will raise the nation in the estimation of all foreign Powers, and will teach them the extent of the influence and strength of the Republic. A complete change in the Cabinet will of course be a necessary step in this patriotic programme, and minor reforms, such as the purification of the civil service, the protection of the shipping interests, and a general improvement in our foreign policy, will follow naturally in its wake. But the two now unsightly blocks out of which President Grant can carve if he will a magnificent monument to his own glory and the glory of his country are the oppressed Southern States and enslaved Cuba.

If the people of the United States had no other cause for sympathy with those who for more than four years have been fighting the battle of independence in Cuba, a sufficient one would be found in the fact that upon the final success of the revolutionists depends the continuance or the abolition of human serv-

tude on the island. The Cuban Republic means freedom for the slave; the enforcement of Spanish rule means his continued bondage. At an immense sacrifice of blood and treasure, endangering at one time the life of the Union, the American people wiped out the blot of slavery from their constitution forever. The hideous form of the wrong is no longer seen at our own firesides, but while it exists in Cuba it still hangs about our gates to our scandal and aversion. We feel that in a moral point of view our duty is not fulfilled and the cost of our terrible war is not requited, so long as the fetters of the slave are worn by human beings on an island lying in our own waters and within reach of our hands. The exploded cant of non-interference with the affairs of other nations does not excuse us for suffering a continuance of the reproach. Slavery in Cuba means slavery in its most aggravated and repulsive aspect. It means all the horrors of the Red River and the Florida swamps extended over the whole island. The census of 1862 shows that the population of Cuba comprised seven hundred and sixty-four thousand whites and five hundred and ninety-four thousand blacks, of whom nearly four hundred thousand were slaves. With a colored population numbering nearly one-half over three-sevenths of the inhabitants of the whole island, and with two-thirds of these held in bondage, it can readily be understood that terrorism and brutality must be depended upon to supply the place of physical superiority in enforcing obedience to the master. The whipping-post, the bloodhound, the revolver, even the fagot and the stake are the means by which the right of property in man is enforced, while our government stands idly by, and the republican party, built up on the basis of freedom for the slave and pushing abolition at home to the extremity of a cruel civil war, shuts its eyes to the horror, and wreathes its lips in civil smiles for the blood-stained tyrants of an effete and bastard monarchy.

There are two methods by which the American government can be instrumental in securing the abolition of slavery in Cuba: the one by aiding the people of the island to secure the independence for which they have so long been battling single-handed; the other by compelling the emancipation of the slaves by the Spanish government. The first we believe to be the true mission of General Grant if his administration is to fulfill the hopes and expectations of the people who have elected him, and to make its mark in living brilliancy on the history of the world. The Cuban patriots, from the earliest period of their present struggle, have adopted universal freedom as their slogan. In the declaration of independence, made in October, 1868, at the first rising at Manzanillo, the then handful of insurgents declared in favor of the emancipation of the slaves, with indemnification to the owners, and demanded "a religious regard for the inalienable rights of man as the basis of freedom and national greatness." In December, 1868, Carlos Manuel Cespedes, then Captain General of the Eastern Division for the provisional government, issued a proclamation declaring the absolute emancipation of the slaves in that division on behalf of the independent government, which "having been proclaimed in the name of liberty," could have no part with human bondage. Shortly afterwards the military authorities of the revolutionary army decreed the abolition of slavery within their lines. Early in March, 1869, the Revolutionary Assembly of Representatives for the Central Department issued a decree absolutely abolishing slavery, providing for the future indemnification of patriot owners, and leaving the freedmen at liberty to become soldiers or to remain cultivators of the soil, as they might desire. At a later date, in April, 1869, the constitution adopted by the Constitutional Convention, and approved by the Cuban Congress at Guimaro, the provisional capital of the Republic, confirmed and finally established abolition, and declared in one of its articles "All the inhabitants of the Republic of Cuba are absolutely free." That this action was not taken on the ground of expediency alone is sufficiently proved by the voluntary emancipation of their slaves, without compensation, by a large number of the most wealthy revolutionists. One after another they proved their devotion to the cause of universal liberty by giving freedom to those they had themselves held in bondage. Only recently the Spanish Minister of the Colonies officially announced that "the property belonging to Cuban insurgents and their sympathizers (including slaves) could not, under the Spanish constitution, be confiscated, but must be held until the close of the war." Whereupon M. de Aldama, one of the leading revolutionists, whose slaves, numbering some three thousand, had been seized, has sent in to the Spanish Cortes, through the abolition societies of Europe, a deed of liberation for the whole of these slaves, giving them their unconditional freedom. Thus, both by the decrees of their government and by their own voluntary acts, the struggling Cubans have proved their sincerity to the principle of liberty for all men of all colors. We have not space in the present article to show what we have done towards securing freedom for the Cuban slaves through the action of the Spanish government, and how little prospect there is of accomplishing such a result by peaceful diplomacy. We shall examine that branch of the subject hereafter, and shall point out the means by which we may enforce our demands upon Spain should it become desirable to do so. At present we desire to direct the attention of President Grant to the fact that independent of the approval and without the aid of political rings he can do much towards freeing the slaves in Cuba and giving independence to the island at the same time. A friendly attitude towards the struggling patriots—the recognition of their belligerency to which four years of war entitles them—would pronounce the doom of Spanish rule in the island. If General Grant is true to himself and to the American people, before another Presidential election rolls round the last Spanish heel will have left its print on a Cuban neck and the last fetter will have dropped from the limbs of a Cuban slave.

THE PRUSSIAN LEGISLATIVE DIET reassembled in session in Berlin yesterday. His Majesty Emperor William was not present. The speech from the throne was read by a member of the Ministry. The royal utterance indicates a governmental intention to adhere to the present system of home policy in Germany, particularly in the point of relation to the Church,

and as such it was immediately endorsed by the Parliamentary vote, which was cast for President of the Chamber.

## News from the Camp of the Cuban Insurgents.

THE HERALD'S COMMISSIONER in Cuba, as we learn by special cable despatch from Havana, visited the camp of the insurgent leader Agramonte on Thursday last. He left Vista Hermosa accompanied by two guides and without arms on the 9th instant. After traveling six miles he fell in with Enrique El Americano and other insurgents, who, after hearing his story, separated him from his companions and led him alone to the headquarters of Agramonte. Three miles in advance of the headquarters he met a picket guard of eight white men and about one hundred negroes. The former were dressed only in pantaloons and the latter were for the most part independent of even that article of clothing; but whether for comfort or from necessity does not appear. At the headquarters our commissioner was received with some evidences of suspicion, the explanation for which is said to be that the revolutionists did not like the prospect of General Grant's re-election. They evidently regard the action of the administration up to the present time as unfriendly to their cause, and were looking to advantages from a change in the federal authorities. Although disappointed in this, it is probable that they may yet find reason to rejoice at the success of General Grant in the light of his second term of office.

The caution of the revolutionists probably prevented our commissioner from gaining any full intelligence of the movements, condition and prospects of Agramonte's army; but from the picket guard he learned that the horses and equipments were in a fair condition, but that ammunition was scarce. The food supply is ample; meat, vegetables, and oranges and lemons in abundance. They have no coffee, however, and are compelled to console themselves with hot water, sweetened with honey, as a beverage, which they render palatable by bestowing upon it the name of "Cuba Libre." No doubt they drink in it confusion to the Spaniard and long life to the Republic, and make up in enthusiasm what their beverage lacks in strength. From these few facts we can form some idea of the spirit that animates the brave men who have been for over four years struggling for their freedom and holding out through all manner of trials and sufferings against a well-organized and thoroughly equipped army. It is not in success, but in adversity, that the fidelity of men to a cause is the most thoroughly tested. The Cubans deserve their independence, and a nation resolved to be free cannot be held in subjugation. The further proceedings of our commissioner will be watched with interest by the American people.

## The Illness of Mr. Gladstone.

Fears are entertained that the illness of the English Prime Minister may have serious results, and considerable uneasiness is felt, lest fatal results should ensue, in political circles in London. The death of Mr. Gladstone at this juncture would be an irreparable loss to the liberal party in England. No man in Parliament could take his place in carrying out the peaceful, progressive, policy that has marked his administration. Although not a great or an original thinker, he has the quality of adopting the popular ideas of the hour and making himself their exponent and defender. Beginning life as a Tory Mr. Gladstone has risen to power in advocating doctrines that his old conservative allies have been accustomed to denounce as revolutionary. It is to his credit, however, that the constant change of his opinions is due to a nature that combines strangely sympathy and sternness. It would not be, perhaps, just to blame too severely the mental organization which adopts the ideas of the moment as the expression of a popular will which it is the duty of statesmen to obey. This habit of thought has the advantage of recognizing the people as superior to the Parliament, and is a tacit recognition that all power lies with the people. It is by his efforts to apply the liberal theories to the benefit of the masses and to reverse the oppressive English policy in Ireland that Mr. Gladstone will principally be remembered in the future. He undoubtedly recognizes that the reign of class rule is at an end, and his aim has been to educate the people to the use of the liberties he saw could not long be withheld from them without incurring the danger of revolution. Like all changes at a critical period it is not possible yet to judge whether he has not increased instead of lessening the danger he sought to avert. It is pretty generally conceded among political thinkers that the present system of government in England must undergo radical change, and it remains to be seen whether the masses will be content to wait the issue of Gladstone's slow process, or, feeling their strength, will attempt to seize by violence the power that lies within their grasp. In either case the present government of the aristocratic classes is doomed, and will owe its overthrow to no one more directly than to that same William Ewart Gladstone, whom years ago Macaulay described as "the hope of the stern and unbending Tories."

THE ROUGHS AND ROWDIES at BOSTON.—As the eagle scents his prey from afar so do the professional thieves see in the misfortunes which a great disaster brings upon the honest and thrifty their field for spoliation. They do not lack in the enterprise requisite for gathering the harvest which the conflagration prepares for their ready fingers. Before honest men found the ruins of their warehouses cool enough to permit the search for the chance savings from the fury of the flames, roughs, rowdies and thieves from New York, Philadelphia and other cities had made long railway journeys to be on hand to steal from those whom the fire had despoiled. Only by the utmost firmness of military discipline can they be properly repressed in their fiendish attempts for plunder. General Sheridan last year at Chicago found it necessary to use arbitrary measures. He baffled the thieves and earned the gratitude of the Chicago sufferers. Boston's authorities should not hesitate for trifles in fencing out the roughs of their own city with their reinforcements from every quarter. Public sentiment will bear them out in using whatever force may be found necessary to protect the rights of her suffering merchants.

## The Boston Fire—The Latest from the Afflicted City.

The full, graphic and reliable despatches from Boston, which have given to the readers of the Herald the earliest and best intelligence from the scene of the great calamity from the breaking out of the fire up to the present moment, are continued in our columns to-day. They contain more interesting details of the events of the fearful hours when the conflagration raged in all its fury, more particular accounts of the losses, and bring the story of the drama down to the hour when all fear of further misfortune had happily ceased. A heavy rain storm set in at eight o'clock last evening, following a day of drizzling mist, and the welcome visitor speedily quieted the apprehensions of the timid and gave relief to the worn-out watchers of the subdued but scarcely conquered enemy. The bright flames which continued to rise threateningly from the ruins, as if only awaiting a little aid from the friendly wind to spread further devastation, were beaten down and extinguished; the showering sparks went out one after another, until along the smouldering mass all was blackness and smoke. There is no longer any danger of a renewal of the fire.

As in Chicago, the military have proved of great service in preventing robberies and preserving order. Thousands of thieves hastened to the city to take advantage of the confusion and terror in their peculiar fashion. According to all accounts they have been prevented from plying a profitable trade. The military and civil authorities have wisely acted in perfect harmony, and there have been no cross-purposes and no conflicting orders to add to the confusion. Although the city has not been under martial law the good effects of martial law have been felt, and strict military discipline has prevailed in all the arrangements. The merchants who have been burned out are locating themselves temporarily in other parts of the city and proceeding with their business, and the property owners only await the laying out of the contemplated new streets over the burned districts to commence the work of rebuilding. The condemned Mansard roof receives no mercy from the press, and it is probable that the tasteful finish will be religiously discarded in all Boston buildings for the future. The people are again cheerful and hopeful, and there is every prospect that the city will speedily rally from the shock it has received.

The insurance offices appear to be likely to weather the storm gallantly. Only two suspensions in this city are yet announced—the Humboldt and the International—but few more failures are anticipated. The losses of the New York companies are not heavy considering the amount of property destroyed, being only five millions in all. The foreign companies lose somewhat heavily; but they are rich, substantial and can afford to stand the loss. A proposal to increase the insurance rate has been made as a means of relief to the companies; but this would be a step of doubtful expediency, and we do not believe it will be taken. Altogether the severity of the shock of the great Boston conflagration may be said to have passed away, and the people are beginning to console themselves that the solid wealth and prosperity of the country has enabled them to meet it so well.

## Father Burke on Froude.

The wisdom of the English Chancellor of the Exchequer in expressing to Mr. Froude his belief that the mission of the English historian to America would fail to produce the wished-for result of converting Americans into admirers of English policy in Ireland will, in all probability, be justified. We have, when commenting on the lectures of Mr. Froude, pointed out that his theories were based upon arguments of brute force, which, as freemen loving justice above all things, we could neither accept nor applaud. After all the skillful pleading of Mr. Froude we felt that he had no grounds upon which he could justify English rule in Ireland except the questionable one of the right of the strong to oppress the weak. Such an argument, being opposed to the fundamental principles of our government, can never be accepted by an American audience. On the contrary, the picture of the weak battling for freedom and right must ever command our sympathy. Father Burke last night undertook to overthrow the pretence upon which the right of England to conquer Ireland was founded. He began by showing that Mr. Froude, notwithstanding his professions of kindly feeling for Ireland, was, like most Englishmen, incapable of comprehending the feelings or aspirations of the Irish people. While allowing him to be influenced by the best intentions, Father Burke asserted that his judgment was warped by native prejudice, and in support of this theory made some apt quotations from Mr. Froude's works, which gave strong color to the charge of disingenuousness that was levelled against him. The peculiar feature of the defence made by Father Burke was, that all the authorities by which he disproved the statements of Mr. Froude were English, and, in many instances, the very same men whom Mr. Froude had called to his aid on the other side of the question. It is due to Father Burke to say that the discussion was carried on with marked courtesy, and that everything like personality was carefully avoided. In the dexterous denial of the bull of Adrian the frowns of the priest was, perhaps, apparent; but, if we except this delicate passage, there was more of the soldier than the priest in his eloquent defence of the Irish cause. There was in the lecture the same defect that was visible in the treatment of the Norman Conquest by Mr. Froude. Neither gentleman treated the subject exhaustively. The Dominican devoted himself to a defence of the Irish society of the period, and showed clearly that the statements of Mr. Froude were contradicted expressly by distinguished contemporary authority drawn from English sources. He demonstrated that the Irish were by no means the degraded or insubordinate race that Mr. Froude had pictured them. He admitted that society in Ireland had been disorganized by three hundred years of warfare against the Danes, but claimed that they were rapidly re-establishing order when the Normans, urged by the thirst of conquest, appeared on the scene. Taking their own records as his found necessary to protect the rights of her suffering merchants.

THE SAME OLD STORY.—Another bank cashier has turned up a defaulter to the amount of fifteen thousand dollars. This time it is the New York Gold Exchange Bank which suffers, and as it makes good the loss and lets the offender off scot-free the affair, as Mr. Toots would say, is "of no consequence." The defaulting cashier, when confronted by his President and asked for an explanation, owned the truth and said, "It's the same old story. I've been speculating in stocks, and that's how the money has gone." What a volume of warning to the victims of "the street" is conveyed in these few words!

Judge from the temper shown by the audience, which was largely Irish, the cause of England will not be served by opening up the old wounds and recalling scenes of the past that are abhorrent to our modern ideas of right and justice.

## President Thiers and the Political Parties in the French Assembly.

The members of the French National Assembly met in Parliamentary session again yesterday. There was a large attendance of representatives. M. Grévy was re-elected President of the body by a vote of four hundred and sixty-two yeas against forty-three nays. There appears to be a good deal of effort in the line of inside party reconstruction. General Chanzy resigned the Chairmanship of the party of the Left Centre, and a rumor prevailed in Paris to the effect that the formation of a new politico-legislative combination is very immediately probable. The members of the Left Centre will, it is thought, effect a rupture with the extreme Left, and subsequently fuse with the men of the Right Centre.

It has for some time past been the general expectation that on the occasion of the re-opening of the Assembly some decided action would be taken by the government or by the majority in the Assembly, which would have the effect of foreshadowing with some distinctness the immediate future of the nation. The opening of the Assembly, however, seems to have been a very uninteresting affair, and quite as uninteresting as it was uninteresting. The Deputies, it is said, were present in full force, and conspicuous among the crowd were the Duke d'Aumale and the Prince de Joinville, M. Leon Gambetta and other prominent party leaders and representatives. President Thiers was lustily cheered when he entered. It does not appear, however, that anything of a practical character was done by the assembled Deputies.

At a preliminary meeting, or, as we should call it, "caucus" of the republican Deputies of the Left, held on Sunday, an expression of sentiment was elicited which more clearly reveals the situation. At this meeting it was stated that there had been a steady growth of republicanism among the French people of all the departments, while it was admitted that the prefects and magistrates all over the country had become somewhat alarmingly tintured with anti-republican sentiments. It was resolved that the Deputies thus assembled in "caucus" should wait upon President Thiers and acquaint him with the condition of affairs, requesting such official action as will bring the people and their representatives in the legislative body into closer relationship. It was also resolved to oppose by all means in their power, and as strongly as do the monarchists, the adoption of any constitutional reforms by the present National Assembly.

There is but one other piece of news which gives us any insight into the actual situation. The Right is composed mainly of monarchists, with a mixture of conservative republicans. M. Grévy, although a man of moderate opinions, has always been an undisguised republican in principle. It was natural to suppose that the Right, especially that large section which is in favor of the re-establishment of the monarchy, should prefer a man more in harmony with their views at the head of the Assembly than is M. Grévy. M. Marc Girardin, whose name was mentioned yesterday in connection with the Presidency of the Chamber, is not to be confounded with M. Emile de Girardin, the once well-known and distinguished editor of the *Presse*; but it is reasonable to conclude that he is not a pronounced republican.

Looking at the whole situation as so presented, it seems not unjust to conclude that President Thiers feels his movements are fettered, and that with the Assembly as at present constituted he can do nothing but preserve the provisional government. The outside question which the nation will force upon the government is whether the present Assembly should not be dissolved and a fresh election ordered. If it be true that the people are not in harmony with their representatives in the legislative body a general election should be ordered at once. For our part, we can see no solution to the abnormal and unsatisfactory state of things now existing in France but the immediate dissolution of the Assembly and a direct appeal to the people. There is but one objection to this. It is that the war indemnity to Germany has not been fully paid, and this fact may keep M. Thiers in power with the present Assembly.

RUSSIAN INTERESTS IN CENTRAL ASIA.—The imperial Russian government is about to conclude treaties of commerce with the Central Asiatic States of Khokan, Bokhara and Kashgar. The relations between Russia and Khiva cannot, as we are told in our telegram from St. Petersburg, "be maintained," and it is added by the official journal of the Czar's Cabinet, that "the safety of the Russian border depends upon the relations with Khiva." This is true to a very considerable extent. It is equally a fact that the material interests of Russia, her commercial profits particularly, demand a diplomacy on her part such as is indicated in the Herald's telegram. This position is made quite apparent by the facts which we append, illustrative of our news to-day, and from which it will be seen that the Muscovite intent of Central Asiatic advance and progress contemplates the carrying of the eagle flag to the very border line of British India.

THE SAME OLD STORY.—Another bank cashier has turned up a defaulter to the amount of fifteen thousand dollars. This time it is the New York Gold Exchange Bank which suffers, and as it makes good the loss and lets the offender off scot-free the affair, as Mr. Toots would say, is "of no consequence." The defaulting cashier, when confronted by his President and asked for an explanation, owned the truth and said, "It's the same old story. I've